



University of Colorado Hospital
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March 27, 2018

The Honorable Greg Walden, Chairman
U. S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Gregg Harper, Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515-6115

Dear Chairman Walden and Chairman Harper:

Thank you for including University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) in the outreach survey to respond to your questions concerning the availability of sexual assault forensic examinations. We are pleased to participate in your survey.

UCH is the only major teaching hospital in the State of Colorado providing the training and clinical research venues for the University of Colorado's health professions' education programs at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, CO. UCH is also the "academic anchor" for UCHealth, a major health and hospital system that includes eight additional community based hospitals in Colorado.

UCH proudly provides complete sexual assault forensic examination services in our emergency department. Accordingly, please accept the following as our responses to your questions:

1. Does the University of Colorado Hospital employ SANEs or SAFE-certified medical professionals?

UCH Response: Yes

2. If the University of Colorado Hospital does employ SANEs,
 - a. When did the University of Colorado Hospital begin employing SANEs?

UCH Response: November 2016

- b. How many SANE or SAFEs does the University of Colorado Hospital employ?

UCH Response: Currently there are 16 Forensic Nurse Examiners on the team, including the manager.

- c. How were SANEs trained?

UCH Response: All SANEs completed the Colorado Statewide 64 online training program, through UCHealth in Colorado Springs (which is grant funded). In addition, all SANEs have gone to the UCHealth two-day live model training in Colorado Springs; performed a minimum of 6 precepted adult exams; performed a minimum of 1 precepted suspect exam; performed a minimum of 10 precepted speculum exams; and observed a minimum of 8 hours of expert witness courtroom training.

- d. During what days and hours are SANEs available at the University of Colorado Hospital?

UCH Response: The team is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- e. Is the University of Colorado Hospital listed on the IAFN database?

UCH Response: Yes, we are on the IAFN website.

- f. What is the annual cost of administering the SANE program at the University of Colorado Hospital? Please explain what is covered by this cost, such as the cost of SANE training, SANE salaries, and victim services. Please provide the cost for 2017, 2016, and 2015.

UCH Response: The cost covers the on-call pay for both orientees and preceptors; call-back pay for both orientees and preceptors; ten hours of on-going yearly training; monthly staff meetings; manager salary; orientation (to

include courtroom observation, live model training, hospital orientation, etc.); monthly journal clubs and peer reviews; and community outreach such as SART meetings. The 2016 cost was \$28,052 and the 2017 cost was \$158,807.

- g. What grants, if any, has the University of Colorado Hospital applied for or accepted to fund any programs related to the training of SANEs or treatment of sexual assault victims?

UCH Response: The University of Colorado Hospital has not yet applied for any grants for our Forensic/SANE program.

3. If the University of Colorado Hospital does not employ SANEs, does the University of Colorado Hospital provide rape kits by non-SANEs?

UCH Response: N/A

4. If a sexual assault victim comes to the University of Colorado Hospital requesting treatment and/or a rape kit following an assault, what procedures are in place at the University of Colorado Hospital to treat that victim? If the University of Colorado Hospital does not conduct a rape kit, SAFE certified or not, please include whether the University of Colorado Hospital has a relationship or agreement with another facility that does provide those services.

UCH Response: All patients are seen through the Emergency Department and have a medical screening exam by an Emergency Physician. If forensic services are needed, the physician notifies the ED call center who will call the on-call Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE). The FNE will then discuss the patient case with the Physician and determine if an exam is needed. If so, the FNE will come into the hospital and has a one hour response time. The FNE is guided by a SANE pathway, which is a standing order set based on IAFN and CO Statewide SANE education and practices. The SANE pathway includes labs, prophylactic medications for STIs and pregnancy, as well as immunizations in accordance with the CDC guidelines. Community and Law Enforcement Advocates are called for every patient by the FNE. In addition,

Emergency Department Social Workers and/or Behavioral Health Evaluators see SANE patients as needed.

5. Does the University of Colorado Hospital track any data on sexual assault, such as the number of sexual assault victims treated each year, how many rape kits are requested, and how many rape kits are completed?

UCH Response: Yes, the team tracks the following data: Case number, Police Agency (jurisdiction of assault); Mode of Arrival; Victim vs Suspect; Type of Forensic Service (Sexual Assault, Strangulation, Intimate Partner Violence, Elder Abuse, Child Abuse, and/or Human Trafficking); Type of Report (Law, Medical or Anonymous); Patient Age; Patient Gender; Date of week and Time of Day of exam; Length of exam; and if Drugs to Facilitate Sexual Assault (DFSA) was collected.

We hope that our responses to your survey questions are sufficient in meeting your needs. However, if you need any further clarification or additional information we would be pleased to provide such.

Again, thank you for including UCH in this survey and we stand ready to assist your committee and subcommittee in any way as needed.

Sincerely,



Will Cook
President & CEO
University of Colorado Hospital

cc: The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations